Author’s response to reviews

Title: Effects of the blood urea nitrogen to creatinine ratio on haemorrhagic transformation in AIS patients with diabetes mellitus

Authors:

Linghui Deng (690034282@qq.com)
Shi Qiu (huaxiqiuqiu@hotmail.com)
Changyi Wang (keepyi1108@outlook.com)
Haiyang Bian (1023059067@qq.com)
Lu Wang (1606523628@qq.com)
Yuxiao Li (624114211@qq.com)
Bo Wu (dragonwb@126.com)
Ming Liu (wyplmh@hotmail.com)

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Author’s response to reviews:

Dear Catherine Rice and reviewers,

Thank you for your kind letter of “BMC Neurology - NURL-D-18-00523R2” on February 15th. We revised the manuscript in accordance with the reviewers’ comments, and carefully proof-read the manuscript to minimize typographical, grammatical, and bibliographical errors. Here below is our description on revision according to the reviewers’ comments. Should you have any questions, please contact us without hesitate.

With best wishes,

Yours sincerely,

Ming Liu
We would like to express our sincere thanks to the reviewers for the positive comments. Here below is our description on revision according to the editor and reviewers’ comments.

Replies to Editor:

1. In the Funding section of the Declarations please indicate the role of the funding body in the design of the study and collection, analysis, and interpretation of data and in writing the manuscript. If no specific funding was received for this study, please clearly indicate this in the Funding section.

The authors’ answer: The study was not supported by any funding.

2. Please use (unique) initials only rather than names in the Authors' contributions section.

The authors’ answer: Thank you for your advice. We have revised the manuscript following your advice.

3. Please provide specific contributions for all the authors in the Authors' contributions section; one author appears to be missing.

The authors’ answer: Thank you for your advice. We have revised the manuscript following your advice.

Replies to Reviewer 1

1. The reviewer’s comment: Since it is hypothesized that a high BUN/Cr increases the risk of HT probably increasing the prevalence of cerebrovascular disease of small vessels, why did not you include in the statistical analysis the degree of leukoaraiosis? Please specify the reason.

The authors’ answer: Thank you for your helpful advice. In the current research, we did not collect the image data. We acknowledged it was one of the limitations of our research and we wrote this in the Discussion part. As you advised, we will include the image data in the further study.
Replies to Reviewer 2

1. Thank you for your helpful advice. We feel sorry for our negligence and we have revised the manuscript carefully following your advice.

2. Table 2 is difficult to read. Please make easy to read and understand. I mean the arrangement of the variables is misleading.

The authors’ answer: Thank you for your advice. In model II of table 2, all continuous variables in the covariates were adjusted as smooth. We used the generalized additive model (GAM) model to adjust the continuous variables in the model II. The method on how to use smooth curve fitting has been described in detail by Motulsky [1].

Reference:

1. Motulsky H, Christopoulos A. Fitting models to biological data using linear and nonlinear regression: a practical guide to curve fitting: Oxford University Press; 2004;12~47